Mountain Weather Forecast

North Grampian

Including North and West Cairngorms National Park, Monadhliath, Ben Alder, Creag Meagaidh, Loch Ericht and Loch Rannoch
Forecast valid from 00:00 on Sunday 28 Mar 2021 until 23:59 on Monday 29 Mar 2021

Forecast Issued on Saturday 27 Mar 2021 at 14:45 by Met Office Aberdeen

Confidence: High for for wet and windy conditions over the next few days and for colder, drier conditions towards midweek, but there is significant uncertainty in the timing of this transition.

Headline for Sunday 28 Mar 2021: Morning sunshine and snow showers. Heavy snow turning to rain later. Very windy.

Mountain weather hazards on Sunday 28 Mar 2021

Blizzards Low Likelihood	**Heavy Snow** No Likelihood	**Storm force winds** Medium Likelihood
Gales High Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** High Likelihood	**Poor visibility** Medium Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** High Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** Low Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m

Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Heavy snow	Heavy snow	Light snow showers	Sunny intervals	Sleet	Heavy Rain	Heavy Rain	Heavy Rain
Precipitation probability							
80%	80%	40%	20%	50%	80%	90%	90%

Forecast for Sunday 28 Mar 2021

Weather: Bands of heavy rain (snow above 600-800m, perhaps briefly bringing blizzard conditions) will clear east by dawn. Then a bright, chilly morning with a few well scattered but locally heavy snow showers. Showers will give way to thicker cloud spreading northeast across Ben Alder by late morning and the northern Cairngorms shortly after , bringing sleet or heavy snow, this quickly turning to rain at all levels along with extensive hill fog.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 80% decreasing to almost no chace from the south from mid-morning. 10-20% for northern foothills, these seeing the best of the shelter.

Visibility: Morning showers will be well scattered but may reduce visibility to only a kilometre or so and bring patches of cloud down to 400-600m. Otherwise cloud will be well broken and most summits clear until cloud thickens from the south widely to 400-600m. Below this, rain will reduce visibility to several kilometres, perhaps less at times.

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Forecast for Sunday 28 Mar 2021

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1300	48/61 S	50/65 SW	45/58 W	40/52 W	41/53 SW	44/58 S	51/67 S	51/69 SW	53/73 SW
900	52/65 S	50/63 SW	42/52 SW	36/47 SW	39/51 SW	49/62 S	55/70 S	49/64 SW	53/69 SW
600	36/49 S	34/45 SW	29/39 SW	26/36 SW	28/38 SW	33/45 S	37/51 S	32/47 SW	35/51 SW
300	21/45 S	19/41 SW	14/31 SW	14/30 SW	15/32 SW	17/36 SW	19/43 S	17/37 SW	18/39 SW
Glen	9/34 S	7/31 SW	5/26 SW	6/24 SW	8/29 SW	7/29 SW	7/33 SW	8/35 SW	8/34 SW

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1300	-2/-12	-2/-12	-5/-16	-5/-16	-3/-14	-1/-11	1/-8	2/-6	3/-6
900	2/-8	2/-7	-2/-11	-2/-11	0/-9	3/-6	5/-2	6/-1	6/-0
600	4/-4	4/-2	1/-6	1/-6	3/-4	5/-2	7/2	8/3	9/4
300	5/0	6/1	3/-2	4/-1	6/2	7/3	9/5	9/6	10/7
Glen	6/2	6/3	4/0	5/2	7/4	8/5	9/6	9/7	10/7
Freezing Level*	1100m	1000m	600m	500m	800m	1300m	2100m	2000m	2100m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist's View

Winds may reach 100mph through evening across the Cairngorm Plateau. Best conditions through morning ahead of cloud and heavy rain.

Forecast for Monday 29 Mar 2021

Weather: Strong southwest winds continue to drag mild and moist air in off the Atlantic leading to some large rainfall totals across the western ranges with ground becoming sodden by the end of the day. Conversely, the northern Cairngorms will see the best of the shelter, perhaps even some bright or sunny spells towards Ben Rinnes.

Maximum wind: Southwest 25-35 gusting 40-50mph but 55-65mph gusting 80mph across the Cairngorm Plateau.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 40% for the northern Caringorms, otherwise very little chance.

Visibility: Cloud will be extensive above 500-700m, often lower across south or southwest facing sloeps, bringing fog conditions widely on the hills. Heavy rain will leave glens rather hazy and reduce visibility to several kilometres below the cloud base in the west, but much improved across the more sheltered north and east.

Temperature: **Glens:** 10-12C.
At 800m: 6-8C.
Freezing level: Well above summits.

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